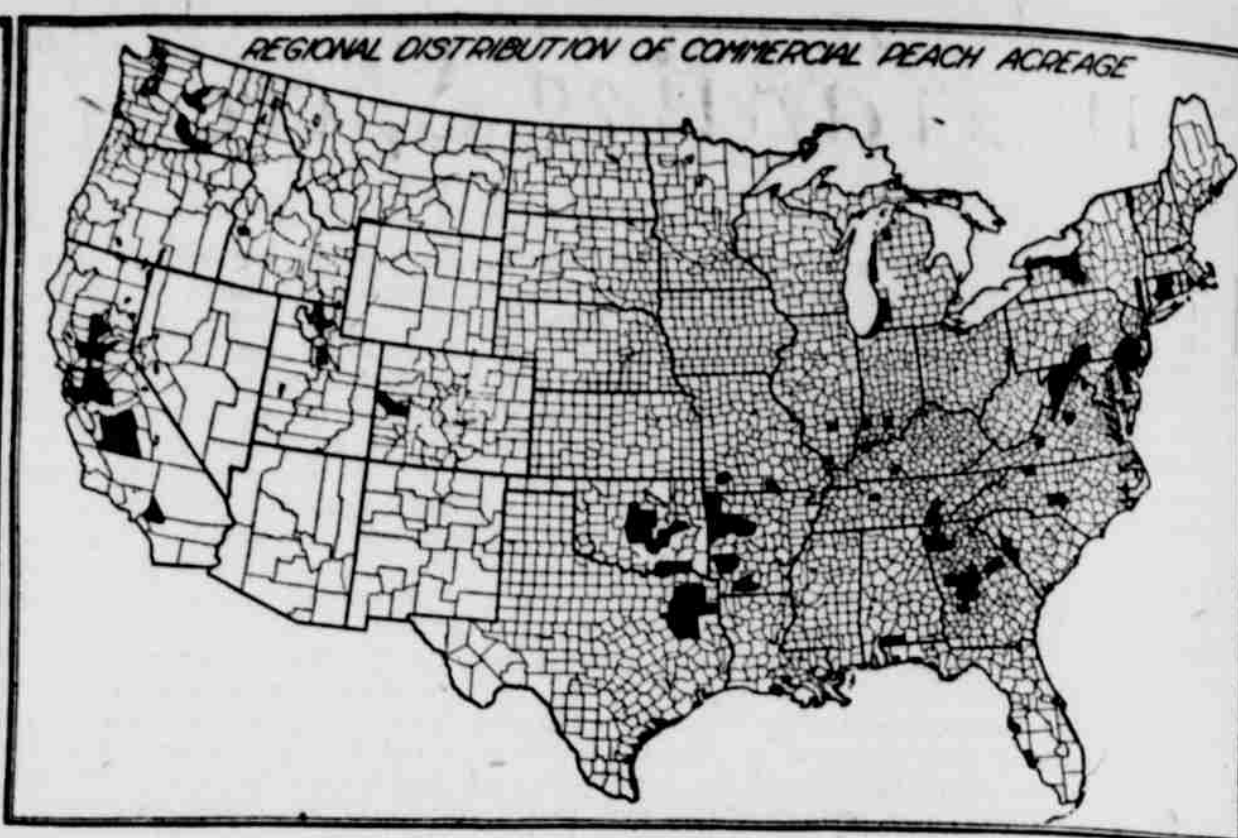


# America's Apple Crop Is Worth \$300,000,000



EVER since that balmy and eventful spring day, many thousands of years ago, when a fair young maiden—your very great grandma—and a fine husky young bachelor—your very great grandpa—met and introduced themselves to each other in a fascinating locality which has since become the world's best advertised orchard, apples have been the most popular fruit known to mankind the world over.

Apples are something that everybody eats. One of the earliest desires of a child is to climb a tree and eat a green apple. Apple eating has grown to be an almost daily habit with all Americans.

"An apple a day keeps the doctor away" is an age-old proverb that now seems to be taken seriously by practically the entire populace. Old folks whose teeth have become so few and far between as to make the biting and chewing of an apple impossible, no longer bemoan that unhappy condition of affairs; they merely smile slyly, convert their beloved fruit into apple sauce, and satisfy their apple-yearning appetites as of yore.

Apple pies and apple dumplings—once known to fame only as New England breakfast food—can now be found daily on dining tables from the McAdoo Long Island home to Hiram's 'Frisko bungalow.

As remarked above, everybody eats apples, but strange to say, comparatively few people know anything about the immensity of the annual crop in the United States, or in what states the bulk of them are produced. This general lack of knowledge is likewise true of the American crop of peaches and pears.

Mr. Leon M. Estabrook, chief of the Bureau of Crop Estimates of the United States Department of Agriculture, has given me some information on the subject of apples, peaches and pears that is so amazing as to sound more like romance than plain facts.

According to carefully gathered figures sent to Washington by his corps of expert fruit specialists, scattered throughout the country, Mr. Estabrook estimates that the apple crop of 1920 will be 198,965,000 bushels, as compared with only 147,457,000 bushels last year—an increase of 51,508,000 bushels.

About one-half of the apple production is known as the commercial crop, being that portion retailed to the public. The other half of the total production is consumed in the vicinities where raised.

It is estimated that the value of the apple crop to the farmers of the country in 1919 was \$275,463,000. Of course the amount paid by the apple eaters of the country exceeded that amount by many millions of dollars, because apples, like all other farm commodities, have a habit of greatly advancing in price between the time they leave the farmer and the time they are

By H. O. BISHOP

offered for sale at grocery stores and fruit stands in the towns and cities.

Can you imagine what a tremendous quantity of apples 198,965,000 bushels are? Taking it on an average, there are 175 apples to the bushel. That means a total of almost 35 billion individual apples. If they were to be equally divided among the hundred million people of this country it would give a fraction more than 348 to each of them—including the wee babies whose only use for them would be to admire their color or roll them across the floor.

If all these apples were placed side by side, they would cover a distance of a million and a half miles.

A glance at the accompanying map will show you that the bulk of the commercial apples are grown in a comparatively few states.

To the average American citizen Washington simply means lumber, fish and Senator Miles Poindexter. Yet that state leads all others in raising apples.

Most people think there's nothing to New York except Tammany Hall, Sing Sing, Cornell University, Al Smith and perpetual longshoremen's strikes. It is a fact, however, that the Empire State is second in apples. California, with a national reputation for native sons, oranges, earthquakes, movie actresses and voters, is the third in the running.

Virginia, the beautiful and ancient state, where the citizenry is said to live mostly on persimmons and past recollections, ranks fourth.

Idaho, known mostly as the home of Bill Borah and Arctic breezes, takes sixth honors.

Folks in Maine, Florida and New Jersey think there's nothing to Missouri except Jim Reed, Champ Clark, the union depot at St. Louis, and a monster ex-brewery. But just the same it is the seventh greatest apple growing state.

In addition to manufacturing the world's supply of automobiles, Michigan pulls down the eighth best apple record.

Pennsylvania, supposed by many to have nothing within its confines but coal, steel, Penrose, the Pinchot brothers, Mitch Palmer and the Cyrus Curtis publications, is the eleventh apple state.

Ohio has been pretty busy raising presidential candidates, but she has won seventeenth honors.

Below is the list of commercial apple growing states with the number of barrels (three bushels to the barrel) grown in 1919:

Washington, 6,440,000; New York, 2,975,000; California, 1,511,000; Virginia, 1,508,000; Oregon, 1,357,-

000; Idaho, 1,200,000; Missouri, 1,127,000; Michigan, 1,109,000; Arkansas, 1,010,000; Colorado, 828,000; Pennsylvania, 759,000; Illinois, 750,000; West Virginia, 648,000; Maine, 601,000; New Jersey, 587,000; Kansas, 450,000; Ohio, 364,000; Massachusetts, 335,000; Maryland, 226,000; New Mexico, 224,000; Nebraska, 215,000; Vermont, 203,000; Indiana, 197,000; Delaware, 192,000; New Hampshire, 187,000; Wisconsin, 126,000; Montana, 124,000; Utah, 121,000; Connecticut, 119,000; North Carolina, 92,000; Georgia, 57,000.

Peaches are supposed to have originated in China. They have been cultivated since the dawn of history. There are about 300 varieties now grown in the United States.

The 1919 peach crop amounted to 51,340,000 bushels, worth approximately \$97,500,000 to the producers. It is estimated that the crop of 1920 will be 45,067,000 bushels, a slight falling off over the previous year.

California makes all other states look barren when it comes to peaches. Her crop last year was 18,506,000 bushels. Georgia came second with 5,895,000 bushels. Other states producing more than a million bushels were:

Arkansas, 3,639,000; Texas, 2,760,000; Washington, 1,899,000; Alabama, 1,678,000; New York, 1,648,000; Utah, 1,500,000; Pennsylvania, 1,200,000; New Jersey, 1,018,000; Oklahoma, 1,007,000.

Pears are supposed to be a native of Western Asia and adjacent Europe, whence they have been introduced into all temperate climates of the world. The United States and France, however, are the chief pear producing countries.

The American growers last year raised 13,498,000 bushels, worth \$24,833,000. It is estimated that the 1920 crop will be just a fraction less than in 1919.

California is easily the banner pear raising state, producing 4,096,000 bushels last year. Washington was second with 1,700,000 bushels; New York third with 1,530,000 bushels; Oregon fourth with 553,000 bushels, and New Jersey fifth with 500,000 bushels.

For a number of years the United States Department of Agriculture has performed a very valuable service to the fruit growers of the country in furnishing periodical reports of the condition of crops and estimates of production in various localities.

That service must now be discontinued. Congress, just before adjourning in June, cut out the appropriation for such work.

It should be remembered, however, that Congress did not cut out the free garden seed folly. They need that in their efforts to be re-elected.

## Law Without Lawyers

THE state of Washington recently enacted a law that provides for a court trial without lawyers. This is certainly a step toward lowering the cost of living unless one has the misfortune to be a lawyer. The new court is to be opened at Spokane and both parties to any action must appear in person and may summon witnesses. No assigned claims may be tried in the "small claims" court and no attorney nor any person other than the parties directly concerned with the suit may "concern himself or in any other manner interfere with the prosecution or defense of the litigation without the consent of the Justice."

The court is to be presided over by S. C. Hyde, a justice of peace. He may enter a judgment for payment of claims in any manner he sees fit and, in case of refusal to satisfy such a judgment on the part of the losing party, he may make an affidavit to that effect, whereupon the claims may be collected through justice or superior court procedure, with consequent increases in costs to the losing party.

Total court fees, under provisions of the act, will be \$1.50. One dollar will be charged for an appearance by plaintiff having a claim not to exceed \$20, and 50 cents, additional, to the constable or deputy sheriff serving a summons on the defendant.

## Do You Know About Your Bible?

THERE are 3,586,489 letters? There are 773,692 words? There are 31,173 verses? There are 1,189 chapters? There are 66 books? That the word AND is used 46,277 times, the word LORD is used 1,855 times and that the word REVEREND occurs once, in the 9th chapter of the 11th Psalm.

The middle verse of the Bible is the 8th verse of the 118th Psalm, while the 21st verse of the 7th chapter of Ezra contains every letter of the alphabet but "J."

The nineteenth chapter of Second Kings, and the 37th chapter of Isaiah are alike.

The longest verse in the Bible is the 9th verse of the 8th chapter of Esther, while the shortest verse is the 35th verse of the 11th chapter of St. John.

The 8th, 21st and 31st verses of the 107th Psalm are all the same, while each verse of the 13th Psalm ends alike.

There are no words, no names in the Bible that are more than 6 syllables long.

How did we know all this? Well, the theological student who offers this information spent three years at his work, and rather than quarrel with him we'll believe it. He considers, by the way, the 26th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles to be the finest chapter in the Bible.

## A New Lincoln Story

A RECENT visitor to an old lady in Springfield, Illinois, who knew Lincoln well, was told this story of the great martyr President.

On one of his flatboat trips down the Ohio River, Lincoln found the other boatmen with him to be a rough, drinking lot. They planned to go ashore and "celebrate" at the first town approached, and urged young Abe to go with them. Lincoln refused to be induced to join them, in spite of taunts and gibes. They called him "sissy" and "preacher" and other epithets, but Abe only smiled and said he was responsible with them for the cargo, which belonged to another man. The men went ashore and spent the night in the saloon while Lincoln watched the raft. In the morning the men came aboard, rolling before them a barrel of whiskey. Young Lincoln then said, "You call me a 'sissy' and a 'mollycoddle,' but I'll stump you to lift up the keg and drink from the bung-hole." They couldn't very well back out, and so each one tried to lift the keg to his mouth, but in vain. Then the young giant, Lincoln, grasped the keg by either rim and slowly muscled it up to his knees, then to his chest, and then with a mighty shove up over his head until the bung-hole was above his mouth. He didn't drink a drop, but with a mighty heave tossed the keg overboard.